

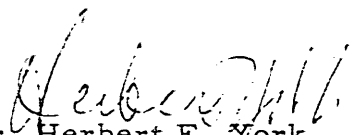
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 18, 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Killian

The following is a rough draft of the Space Science Panel's tentative suggestions concerning the immediate decision which might be made for the first phase of the space program.


Dr. Herbert F. York



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E.O. 12055, Sec. 3-204

MR 80-2 #2

By DJH Date 11/4/80

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We suggest for consideration that the following decisions and actions might be taken in order to move ahead promptly on a space program for 1958-1959:

I. That the full ABMA/JPL program of 14 space vehicles for 1958-1960 be approved and implemented. This suggestion is based on our understanding that this program consists of 2 additional Juno I's (including the March shot), 3 Juno II's and 9 Juno III's with the first 4 to be launched in 1958, the following 8 to be launched in 1959, and the remaining 2 to be launched in 1960.

II. That highest priority be given to making one or two lunar contacts with these vehicles, with the remainder to be used as earth satellites for the purposes discussed below.

III. That a committee mechanism, similar to that used for the IGY satellites be jointly set up by ARPA and the NAS for the purpose of determining the detailed scientific usage of all of the vehicles above.

We further suggest that among these, in addition to whatever lunar experiments can be done, there be one or more vehicles devoted to each of the following:

- 1) Physics, Geophysics and Astronomy, such as solar UV, Cosmic Radiation, Earth's magnetic field, etc.
- 2) A returnable package of cosmic ray emulsions.
- 3) Animal experiments, with the animals either observed by TV or returned to ground, or both.

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- 4) High visibility spheres of the maximum possible size.
- 5) Meteorological experiments, such as cloud cover observations, insolation, etc.
- 6) Investigation of the possibilities of using satellites as communication relay stations.

IV. That laboratory development of the RCA reconnaissance system be continued, but that plans for actual satellite flight of this equipment be deferred until after further study.

V. That the Air Force (BMD/R-W) proposal for a lunar shot be authorized and implemented, and that the committee described in III above also take cognizance of this program. This suggestion is based on our belief that the USSR can make a lunar shot at any time now, and will probably do so before the US can, and that the US must do all it can to mitigate the Sputnik-like reaction which would follow the USSR achievement.

VI. That we proceed with the plan for setting up a mechanism for tracking all satellite vehicles from all sources. We have not studied the proposals for doing this, but believe it to be necessary in connection with the early warning problem.

VII. That plans to prepare satellite launching facilities at Camp Cooke be implemented.

VIII. That the proposed Advanced Vanguard program not be authorized.

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IX. We reluctantly suggest that the NOTS satellite proposal not be implemented.

X. We note that quite possibly military requirements for satellites, other than those now foreseen, may arise during the next few months, and that therefore the DOD should recognize that an expansion of the above program may become necessary.

XI. The committee has not studied the following as yet and makes no suggestions concerning them:

- 1) Follow on X-15
- 2) Dyna Soar
- 3) "fly up" techniques
- 4) Anti-satellites



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